2002 and during the year 2002-03, the project proposals were forwarded by the State Governments to Government of India for clearance. In the year 2002-03, 11075 proposals were forwarded by the four Southern States of which 2226 were cleared by Government of India. The State-wise details are as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of proposals received in the year 2002-03	No. of proposals approved in 2002-03
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9037	1661
2.	Karnataka	247	55
3.	Tamil Nadu	1255	390
4.	Kerala	536	120
	Total	11075	2226

Comprehensive Guidelines on Swajaldhara were issued in June 2003 which stipulated that henceforth all proposals under Swajaldhara would be approved by the District Water and Sanitation Committee. Accordingly, balance proposals which had earlier been received in the Government of India and could not be considered in the year 2002-03, were returned to the respective State Government for consideration on priroity as per the Guidelines issued in June 2003 within the allocated amount communicated to the State for the year 2003-04.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Private participation in coal trade

109. SHRI R.P. GOENKA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to liberalise norms for allotment of captive blocks of coal mines to private sector and permit trading of coal through private participation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the specific blocks, if any, for such allotments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) to (b) In order to augment coal production in the country and to bridge the gap between demand and supply of

coal, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was amended in 1993 for private participation in coal mining to the industries engaged in generation of power, washing of coal obtained from a mine or such other end use as the Central Government may, by notification, specify. Industries engaged in production of Iron and Steel were already eligible under the Act for captive coal mining. Production of Cement was added in this category in 1996. Considering the coal blocks allocated so far under the provision, 49 coal blocks stand allocated to various companies in the public and private sectors as on date.

Promoting coal sector in Madhya Pradesh

110. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to promote the coal sector in Madhya Pradesh with the help of State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) Government is promoting coal sector in the whole of the country including Madhya Pradesh. Coal India Ltd. with its subsidiary companies under the administrative control of the Central Government, and Singareni Collieries Company Limited a joint venture company of Central Government and the Government of Andhra Pradesh, are the major coal producing agencies in the country. The companies both in private and public sectors engaged in manufacturing of Iron and Steel, generation of power and manufacturing of cement have also come forward in this connection for captive coal mining. The Central Government has also initiated a revised coal mining policy allowing State Government Undertakings to mine coal for commercial use.

Import of defective navigation equipment by O.F., Medak

111. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Ordnance Factory, Medak imported navigation equipments;

(b) if so, the details and cost thereof;

(c) whether C and AG *vide* his report No. 6 of 2003 has observed that these equipments were defective and were not verified and tested during the period of warranty;